

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Appl. No. | : | 10/575,334 | Confirmation No. | : | 3627 |
| Applicant(s) | : | Peter Marten Van der Horst | Art Unit | : | 1796 |
| Filed | : | May 22, 2006 | Examiner | : | Atnaf S Admasu |
| Docket No.: | : | 68279A | | | |
| Customer No. | : | 00109 | | | |
| Title | : | Use of CMC in Drilling Fluids | | | |

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

In response to the Office Action dated April 1, 2009, please amend the claims as detailed hereinafter and reconsider the rejection in view of the arguments presented hereinafter.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

To the extent necessary to preserve pendency, the Director is respectfully requested to extend the period for filing a reply in the above identified application. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 041512.